

I claim:

1. A method of authenticating for a multiplicity of services each being callable via a defined access authorization, the method which comprises the following steps:

providing an authentication server and storing in the authentication server at least one access authorization for a service;

storing a multiplicity of authentication codes assigned to users in the authentication server;

assigning each authentication code to the access authorization or authorizations of a user; and

upon receiving a request for a given service, carrying out authentication with the authentication server by comparing a received authentication code with the authentication codes stored in the authentication server and, if the comparison leads to a positive comparison result, causing with the authentication server a connection to the requested service to be set up.

2. The method according to claim 1, which comprises storing in the authentication server an authentication selected from the group of service-specific and subscriber-specific authentications.

3. A method for universal authentication in an intelligent network for a multiplicity of IN services each callable via a defined access authorization, the method which comprises the following steps:

providing an authentication server in a service control point of an intelligent network;

storing at least one access authorization for an IN service in the authentication server;

storing a multiplicity of authentication codes assigned to users in the authentication server;

assigning each authentication code to the access authorization or authorizations of a user; and

upon receiving a request for an IN service, comparing with the authentication server a received authentication code with the authentication codes stored in the authentication server and, if the comparison leads to a positive comparison result, causing with the authentication server a connection to the requested service to be set up.

4. The method according to claim 3, wherein the authentication codes are selected from the group consisting of

service-specific and subscriber-specific access authorization codes.

5. An apparatus for authentication for a multiplicity of services, comprising:

an authentication server connected to a multiplicity of services, said authentication server including

- a memory storing at least one service-specific access authorization for a service and authentication codes;
- a comparison device connected to said memory for comparing a received authentication code with the authentication codes stored in said memory; and
- a connection setup device for setting up a connection to a requested service.